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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/873,867	06/04/2001	Emad M. Awadalla	10007051-1	4669

7590

04/21/2005

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

POLTORAK, PIOTR

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2134

DATE MAILED: 04/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/873,867	Applicant(s) AWADALLA, EMAD M.	
	Examiner Peter Poltorak	Art Unit 2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7, 8, 10-14 and 16-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-8, 10-14 and 16-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. The Amendment, and remarks therein, received on 1/10/2005 have been entered and carefully considered.
2. The Amendment introduces added limitations into the independent claims 1, 11, 17 and 23 necessitating a new ground of rejection. Also, applicant's arguments are essentially directed towards the added limitation and as such the arguments are addressed in the updated rejection.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior office action.
4. Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-14 and 16-29 have been examined.
5. The previous Office Action rejected claims 5 and 19 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. However, applicant clarifies that the phrase "flag ...recognizable solely by the printer" essentially aims only to underline the printer's ability to recognize the flag. In light of applicant's clarification the rejection has been withdrawn.
6. Claims 1, 11, 17 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as the invention.
7. Claims 1, 11, 17 and 23 recite encrypting of a file and providing a header of the file with an identifier that provides an indication of an algorithm that was

used to encrypt the file. It is not clear whether an identifier is placed within the file as limitation suggests or whether the header is added to the file and within the header the identifier is provided. Since the identifier provides the indication of the algorithm used in encryption of the file the limitation is treated as though the header is not part of the file but rather added to the encrypted file.

8. Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-14 and 16-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6378070) in view of Chen (U.S. Patent No. 6058187) and Leppek (U.S. Patent No. 6233338).
9. *Chan et al.* teach converting a file for printing to a printer description language format (*Chan et al.*, col. 6 lines 14 –17), encrypting said file (*Chan et al.*, col. 6 lines 18-20) and transmitting the file to the printer (*Chan et al.*, col. 7 lines 21-25 and lines 43-51).
10. *Chan et al.* do not teach providing the file with an identifier in a header of the file that provides an indication of an algorithm that was used to encrypt the file.

Chen teaches providing a file with an identifier in a header of the file that provides an indication of an algorithm that was used to encrypt the file (*algorithm selection code, Chen, Fig. 3 object 302, and col. 4 lines 5-9*) and *Leppek* provides motivation to combine, teaching the importance of changing encryption schemes in secure data communication (*Leppek, col. 1 lines 56-63*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

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of applicant's invention to place the identifier in a header of the file that provides an indication of an encryption algorithm as taught by *Chen*. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification in order to increase the file decryption efficiency.

11. As per claims 5, 7-8 and 10 the identifier in a header as taught by *Chen* reads on a flag. The limitation that the flag is recognizable solely by the printer identifying an encryption algorithm used in the encrypting is implicit. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to configure the printer to recognize the flag. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification in order to be capable of decrypting the encrypted file presented for printing.

12. Claims 11-14 and 16-29 are substantially equivalent to claims 1-3, 5, 7-8 and 10; therefore claims 11-14 and 16-29 are similarly rejected.

13. Claims 1-3, 7-8, 10-12, 17-18 and 21-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Matsui et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6167514) in view of *Chen* (U.S. Patent No. 6058187) and *Leppek* (U.S. Patent No. 6233338) and in further view of *Hirst et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5930553) and *Printerdriver.net* (<http://www.printerdriver.net/faqpcl.htm>, April 2001).

14. *Matsui et al.* teach a method for securely transmitting data between a computer (PC) and a printer including converting a file to be transmitted, encrypting a file, transmitting said file to the printer and decrypting the file by the printer (*Matsui et al.*, col. 1 lines 58-col. 2 lines 10, Fig. 1).

15. *Matsui et al.* do not teach providing the file with an identifier in a header of the file that provides an indication of an algorithm that was used to encrypt the file.

Chen teaches providing a file with an identifier in a header of the file that provides an indication of an algorithm that was used to encrypt the file (*algorithm selection code, Chen, Fig. 3 object 302, and col. 4 lines 5-9*) and *Leppek* provides motivation to combine, teaching the importance of changing encryption schemes in secure data communication (*Leppek, col. 1 lines 56-63*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to place the identifier in a header of the file that provides an indication of an encryption algorithm as taught by *Chen*. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification in order to increase the file decryption efficiency.

16. *Matsui et al.* do not explicitly teach converting a file for printing to a printer description language format.

Hirst et al. teach converting a file for printing to a printer description language and *Printerdriver.net* teaches that description language format is the most widely used format in the laser printer market.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to convert a file for printing to a printer description language format such as postscript format as taught by *Hirst et al.* prior to encryption and transmission of the file in order for the file be correctly interpreted (*printed*) by a wide variety of laser printers.

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17. As per claims 5, 7-8 and 10 the identifier in a header as taught by *Chen* reads on a flag. The limitation that the flag is recognizable solely by the printer identifying an encryption algorithm used in the encrypting is obvious. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to configure the printer to recognize the flag. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification in order to be capable to decrypt the encrypted file presented for printing.
18. Claims 11-14 and 16-29 are substantially equivalent to claims 1-3, 5, 7-8 and 10; therefore claims 11-14 and 16-29 are similarly rejected.
19. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Matsui et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6167514) in view of *Chen* (U.S. Patent No. 6058187) and *Leppek* (U.S. Patent No. 6233338), and in view of *Hirst et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5930553) and *Printerdriver.net* (<http://www.printerdriver.net/faqpcl.htm>, April 2001), and in further view of Math.Berkeley.edu (<http://math.berkeley.edu/~strain/55.S01/pdfandpds.html>).
20. *Matsui et al.* in view of *Hirst et al.* in view of *Chen* and *Leppek* and in view of *Printerdriver.net* teach converting the file as discussed above.
21. *Matsui et al.*, *Hirst et al.*, *Printerdriver.net*, *Chen* and *Leppek* do not explicitly teach converting said file to at least one of a postscript format, a .pcl format, a .pdf format, and an .xml format.

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Converting files to at least one of a postscript format, a .pcl format, a .pdf format or an .xml format is old and well known, and *Math.Berkeley.edu* teaches that postscript provides high quality printing.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to choose postscript format as a choice of a printer language. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification in order to obtain high quality printing.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter Poltorak whose telephone number is (571)272-3840. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and alternate Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory Morse can be reached on (571)272-3838. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Signature4/15/05
Date
ANDREW CALDWELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER